

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BERN 03116 290725Z

21

ACTION ARA-10

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R 281633Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1067

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

UNCLAS BERN 3116

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EWWT, SZ, PE

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF PANAMA CANAL TRANSIT FEE FOR
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

1. MEDICO INTERNATIONAL, A PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT AID AND
DISASTER ASSISTANCE ORGANIZATION, REGISTERED IN SWITZERLAND,
HAS DONATED A VOLKSWAGEN AMBULANCE FOR USE IN AN
AID PROJECT IN PERU.

2. COST OF SHIPPING VEHICLE TO PERU BY SCHEDULED STEAMER
BEYOND MEDICO'S MEANS. MEDICO HAS RECEIVED OFFER OF
FREE TRANSPORTATION ON A BANANA BOAT RETURNING EMPTY FROM
ANTWERP TO ECUADOR. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS THAT AN OTHERWISE
EMPTY SHIP CARRYING ONLY AMBULANCE VEHICLE WILL NEVERTHELESS
HAVE TO PAY FULL FEE FOR PASSING CANAL. AMOUNT OF FEE
CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN NORMAL SHIPPING CHARGES FOR VEHICLE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPT. DETERMINE WHETHER PANAMA
CANAL AUTHORITIES COULD GRANT WAIVER OF PART OR ALL OF
TRANSIT FEES UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED ABOVE. IF
NEGATIVE, CAN AUTHORITIES SUGGEST OTHER SOLUTION; EMBASSY
WILL PROVIDE FURTHER BACKGROUND INFO IF REQUIRED.
ODELL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition History: n/a
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